

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /092 W

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R 251023Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 460

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD SZ

SUBJECT: COUNTERVAILING DUTY INVESTIGATION ON CHEESE: SWISS

IMPORT QUOTA FOR U.S. BEEF

REF: A) STATE 55109; B) BERN 1133

1. PER REFTTEL A, E/C COUNSELOR AND AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE MET MARCH 21 WITH AMBASSADOR JACOBI, KRELL AND GROSSEN-BACHER OF SWISS DIVISION OF COMMERCE TO REPEAT USG CONCERNS RE APPARENT SWISS LINKAGE OF US BEEF QUOTA TO SWISS CHEESE COUNTERVAILING CASE. WE ALSO EMPHASIZED DISSIMILARITY OF EC AND SWISS CHEESE CASES ALONG LINES VERY HELPFUL STATE 63575.

2. WE PARTICULARLY STRESSED THAT MAKING BEEF QUOTA TIE TO CHEESE A PUBLIC ISSUE DURING EARLY STAGES TREASURY INQUIRY WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL TO SWISS INTERESTS. WE ALSO URGED THAT SWISS CONSIDER HOW BEEF QUOTA CAN BE HANDLED AFTER JULY 1 ON ASSUMPTION THAT FINAL DISPOSITION CHEESE COUNTERVAILING CASE MAY NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE BY THAT DATE.

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3. JACOBI DEFENDED ACTION (IN INFORMING BEEF IMPORTERS

IN ADVANCE OF POSSIBLE NON-RENEWAL SPECIAL QUOTA) ON BASIS STRONG PRESSURES FROM DAIRY INTERESTS TO PROTECT THEIR US MARKET OPPORTUNITIES. JACOBI EMPHASIZED THAT QUOTA NOT SUSPENDED BUT HE HAD ONLY, IN EFFECT, GIVEN WARNING OF PROBABLY TERMINATION SPECIAL US QUOTA IF US COUNTERVAILED ON CHEESE. HE ALSO REITERATED THAT IT WOULD BE HARD TAKE POSITIVE ACTION RENEW QUOTA WHEN "THREAT" OF POSSIBLE US COUNTERVAILING ACTION ON CHEESE CONTINUED. JACOBI ADMITTED THAT HE HAD NOT THOROUGHLY CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY THAT CASE MIGHT NOT BE FINALLY DISPOSED OF BY TREASURY WELL BEFORE JULY 1.

4. ON MARCH 24 JACOZI TELEPHONED E/C COUNSELOR TO EMPHASIZE THAT SWISS WERE DEFINITELY NOT SEEKING TO ESCALATE CHEESE CASE AND WERE MOST INTERESTED IN FINDING MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION. JACOBI ADDED THAT IF NO FINAL DECISION TAKEN ON CHEESE BY LATE JUNE HE THOUGHT BEEF QUOTA COULD BE TEMPORARILY EXTENDED. HOWEVER, TO DO THIS SWISS WOULD PROBABLY NEED SOME INDICATION FROM USG OF WHY CHEESE CASE COULD NOT YET BE SETTLED AND WHEN IT LIKELY BE COMPLETED AS WELL AS RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL FACTORS IN SWISS CASE. EMBOFF EXPRESSED VIEW IT PREMATURE CONSIDER SUCH POSSIBILITIES AT THIS STAGE BUT AGREED KEEP IN TOUCH WITH JACOBI.

5. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE MANY FACTORS ARE INVOLVED, WOULD BE HELPFUL HAVE ANY AVAILABLE GUIDANCE ON PROBABLE TIMING OF FURTHER STEPS IN SWISS CHEESE CASE TO USE IN FUTURE CONVERSATIONS WITH SWISS.  
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## Message Attributes

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